

REMARKS

A principal purpose of this Supplemental Amendment is to add claims of narrower scope, with one set of claims providing that the pigment consists essentially of mica coated with a layer of TiO_2 and/or a layer of Fe_2O_3 , Fe_3O_4 or mixtures thereof and the other set being of the same type but wherein "essentially" is removed from the expression "consists essentially of".

The purpose of the first set of claims 12-15 to provide a food or pharmaceutical product containing a pearlescent pigment devoid of the aluminum hydroxide layer and the aluminum lake which are essential components of the pigments of U.S. Patent 4,084,983. It is in this sense that "consisting essentially of" is to be construed.

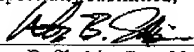
The second set, claims 16-19, is directed to a food or pharmaceutical product containing a pearlescent pigment consisting of only the recited components of said pigment and the naturally occurring impurities thereof.

It is further noted that claim 1 is amended by requiring that the titanium dioxide pigments and/or iron oxide pigments are pearlescent or interference pigments. Claim 1 is also amended to utilize more conventional patent language.

If there are any remaining issues which can be expeditiously resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone Counsel at the number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,


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